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year of travel and study in the Hawaiian Islands, Japan, Korea and China. He spoke at the government colleges for teachers in Peking, and at other schools in China. The report of his work, which is the most detailed study made to date, of the valley of the Min river in the borderland of Thibet, some 300 miles beyond Cheng Tu, will be published by the government geological survey of China. Mr. Hubbard is also preparing papers on the copper mines near Cheng Tu worked by the Chinese, on the antimony mines at Kwang Tung, near Canton, on the physiographic history of the Yang Tse river, and on the geography of some of the Chinese rivers. The copper mines at Asieo, Japan, will be the subject of a paper. Mr. Hubbard is planning two books based on the year's study; a book on the development of the mineral resources of China, and a book on the geography of China for use in Chinese schools.

#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

DEAN HENRY P. TALBOT, of the department of chemistry of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Dr. William H. Nichols, of New York, made addresses at the dedication of the new Steele Chemistry Building at Dartmouth College, on October 29.

PROFESSOR ARTHUR M. GREENE, JR., head of the mechanical engineering department at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, at Troy, N. Y., has been appointed dean of the School of Engineering of Princeton University.

PROFESSOR A. V. MILLER, associate professor of drawing and descriptive geometry, has been appointed assistant dean of the college of engineering of the University of Wisconsin to take the place of Professor J. D. Phillips who is now acting business manager of the university.

At the Detroit College of Medicine and Surgery Dr. Donald Beaver, formerly of the pathologic department of the University of Minnesota has been appointed assistant professor of pathology, Dr. Paul Wooley, former professor of pathology in the University of Cincinnati, associate professor of pathology

and pathologist to the Herman Keiffer Hospital, Detroit.

DR. SERGIUS MORGULIS has been appointed professor of bio-chemistry and Dr. George A. Talbert assistant professor of physiology in the College of Medicine, University of Nebraska, Omaha.

DR. M. J. DORSEY, for ten years in charge of the section of fruit breeding of the department of horticulture of the University of Minnesota, has been elected head of the department of horticulture of the West Virginia University and the West Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station, to succeed Professor J. H. Gourley.

HENRY SCHMITZ AND C. EDWARD BEHRE, of the school of forestry, University of Idaho, have been advanced, respectively, to the rank of associate professors of forest products and of lumbering.

#### DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE AERIAL OBSERVATION OF PHYSIOGRAPHIC FEATURES

THE article on "Aerial observation of earthquake rifts" published by Professor Bailey Willis in *SCIENCE* for September 23, 1921, prompts me to add a word to his interesting discussion. During the war I had occasion to make a short aeroplane flight over the harbor of Valona for the purpose of studying the natural topographic defenses of that strategic key to the southern Adriatic Sea. The ascent was made in the late afternoon, when strong shadows brought out most distinctly the relief of the terrain. It was to me a matter of some surprise to find that physiographic features which were so poorly represented on the inadequate maps of the region as scarcely to betray their presence, or at least their true character, appeared with surprising distinctness when seen from the plane. In particular, certain abandoned shorelines, now left some distance inland by the prograding of the shore, and which I had failed to observe in brief excursions by automobile about the harbor, suddenly stood out with all the clearness of a diagram. The es-